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Title:

Speech at the opening of the exhibition of the Building and Furnishing Trades
Apprentices work at the Building Centre

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SPEECH BY THE HON. THE PREMIER, MR. D.A. DUNSTAN, M.C., M.P.,
AT THE OPENING OF THE EXHIBITION OF THE BUILDING
AND FURNISHING TRADES' APPRENTICES WORK AT THE
BUILDING CENTRE, 12 NOON, FRIDAY, 25.8.67.

MR. CHAIRMAN, DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :

ONE ONLY HAS TO GLANCE AROUND AT THE VARIOUS ITEMS ON EXHIBITION TODAY TO SEE THE HIGH QUALITY OF THE WORKMANSHIP INVOLVED IN THEM. THEY DO GREAT CREDIT TO THE APPRENTICES WHO HAVE WORKED ON THEM AND THEY ALSO REFLECT CREDIT ON THE STAFF OF THE MARLESTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE, WHICH IS THE GOVERNMENT'S TRAINING CENTRE FOR APPRENTICES IN THE BUILDING AND FURNISHING TRADES.

THE SKILL OF CRAFTSMEN IS SOMETHING FOR WHICH SOUTH AUSTRALIA HAS ALWAYS BEEN NOTED, AND THE SKILL OF CRAFTSMEN IS A BASIC FUNDAMENTAL TO THE SUCCESS OF INDUSTRY. MY GOVERNMENT HAS ALWAYS RECOGNIZED THIS, AND SINCE IT TOOK OFFICE IT HAS AMENDED THE LAW TO PROVIDE A SOUNDER BASIS FOR THE TRAINING OF APPRENTICES THAN HAD BEEN IN EXISTENCE BEFORE. YOU ARE ALL AWARE THAT AN APPREN-

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TICESHIP COMMISSION HAS BEEN FORMED WITH A FULL-TIME CHAIRMAN REPLACING THE FORMER PART-TIME APPRENTICES BOARD. SOUTH AUSTRALIA CAN NOW TRULY CLAIM THAT ITS SYSTEM FOR THE TRAINING OF APPRENTICES IS OF A STANDARD THAT IS NOT BETTERED IN ANY PLACE IN THE WORLD. THIS IS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO ALL ASSOCIATED WITH INDUSTRY. IT ENSURES THAT THE APPRENTICE RECEIVES THE BEST POSSIBLE TRAINING IN ANY PARTICULAR CRAFT. IT ENSURES THAT EMPLOYERS RECEIVE THE BENEFITS OF FULLY-TRAINED TRADESMEN, AND IT ALSO ENSURES THAT COMPANIES CONTEMPLATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDUSTRY IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA CAN BE ASSURED THAT OUR SOUTH AUSTRALIAN TRADESMEN ARE OF HIGH QUALITY IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES.

UNFORTUNATELY, OVER A RECENT PERIOD OF TIME, VARIOUS FACTORS OUTSIDE THE CONTROL OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT RESULTED IN A DOWNTURN IN THE BUILDING INDUSTRY. THIS CAUSED ME, WHEN TAKING OFFICE AS PREMIER, TO DEVOTE A GOOD DEAL OF TIME TO ENDEAVOURS TO

RECTIFY THIS SITUATION. I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THESE EFFORTS ARE MEETING WITH SUBSTANTIAL SUCCESS AND THERE IS EVIDENCE ON ALL SIDES OF AN UPWARD TREND IN BUILDING ACTIVITIES. THERE IS, THEREFORE, REASON TO EXPECT THAT THE FUTURE WILL ENSURE FULL EMPLOYMENT FOR TRADESMEN IN THE BUILDING AND FURNISHING TRADES AND EMPLOYMENT FOR APPRENTICES AS THEY COMPLETE THEIR INDENTURES.

MR. CHAIRMAN : IN DECLARING THIS EXHIBITION OPEN, I EXPRESS MY VERY SINCERE CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE APPRENTICES WHO HAVE TAKEN PART IN THE PRODUCTION OF THESE EXHIBITS, THE STAFF OF THE MARLESTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE AND ALL OTHERS ASSOCIATED WITH THE STAGING OF THIS DISPLAY.
